

## **Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

### **Listing of Claims:**

- 1 1. (Currently Amended) A method ~~for applying a sample film to a sample carrier for~~  
2 ~~subsequent spectroscopic analysis~~ of optical spectroscopy of samples,  
3 comprising the steps of:  
4 providing a quantity of sample in liquid state; providing a sample carrier  
5 having at least one sample position;  
6 applying said quantity of sample in liquid state on said at least one sample  
7 position in a plurality of partial quantities of said quantity of sample across a  
8 measurement area of said at least one sample position in such a manner that  
9 said partial quantities ~~on~~ across said measurement area of said at least one  
10 sample position are not in contact with one another before being dried;  
11 drying said quantity of sample to form ~~said a~~ a sample film across said  
12 measurement area; and  
13 spectroscopically analyzing said sample film across said measurement  
14 area employing at least one of infrared spectroscopy, near infrared spectroscopy  
15 and Raman spectroscopy.
- 1 2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said partial quantities of  
2 said quantity of sample are applied ~~to~~ across said measurement area of said at  
3 least one sample position in form of a ~~fine~~ grid with a maximum occupation  
4 density.
- 1 3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said partial quantities amount to from  
2 about 1/10,000 to about 1/10 of said quantity of sample to be applied to said at  
3 least one sample position.

1 4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said applying said quantity  
2 of sample in liquid state ~~on~~ across said measurement area of said at least one  
3 sample position comprises first applying a first layer of said partial quantities to  
4 said at least one sample position, drying said first layer and applying at least one  
5 further layer of partial quantities of said quantity of sample to said at least one  
6 sample position and drying said at least one further layer of partial quantities.

1 5. (Original) The method of claim 4, further comprising applying said partial  
2 quantities belonging to said at least one further layer to said at least one sample  
3 position such that said partial quantities of said at least one further layer are  
4 offset with respect to positions of said partial quantities belonging to said first  
5 layer.

1 6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said applying said quantity  
2 of sample in liquid state on said at least one sample position comprises first  
3 applying a first layer of said partial quantities to said at least one sample position,  
4 drying said first layer and applying at least one further layer of partial quantities of  
5 said quantity of sample to said at least one sample position and drying said at  
6 least one further layer of partial quantities, wherein said partial quantities  
7 belonging to said at least one further layer are applied to positions of said partial  
8 quantities belonging to said first layer.

1 7. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising heating said sample carrier.

1 8. (Canceled).

1 9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8 1, wherein said a plate is made from  
2 infrared (IR)-transparent material is used as said sample carrier.

1 10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein a metal plate whose  
2 surface is roughened is used as said sample carrier.

1 11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said sample carrier is used as a  
2 sample carrier having a plurality of sample positions.

12.-16. (Canceled)

1 17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~42~~ 5, further comprising heating said  
2 sample carrier.

18. (Canceled).

1 19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~48~~ 5, wherein said plate is made from  
2 infrared (IR)-transparent material.

1 20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~42~~ 5, wherein a metal plate whose  
2 surface is roughened is used as said sample carrier.

1 21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~42~~ 5, wherein said sample carrier is  
2 used as a sample carrier having a plurality of sample positions.

1 22. (New) The method of claim 6, further comprising heating said sample carrier.

1 23. (New) The method of claim 6, wherein a plate made from infrared transparent  
2 material is used as said sample carrier.

1 24. (New) The method of claim 6, wherein a metal plate whose surface is roughened  
2 is used as said sample carrier.

1 25. (New) The method of claim 6, wherein said sample carrier is used as a sample  
2 carrier having a plurality of sample positions.